

**Fire Safety Code Board
Of Appeal and Review
Hearing Minutes for May 21, 2009**

A subcommittee of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review met at their headquarters located at 1 Regan Court, Varley Building #46, in Cranston, RI on Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 9:30 am. Present were Chairman Coutu, Commissioners Dias and Jackson and Deputy Director Carol Marsella. The following cases were heard.

APPEAL #050018C: Mr. Norman R. Beaudoin, for the property located at 95-117 Main Street, Woonsocket. ADSFM Francis Dunton appeared for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office. The Applicant appeared requesting an extension of time from the deadlines of a previous decision, and testified that the sprinkler system was 75% complete, and that the fire alarm in this facility needs to be upgraded. The plans for the fire alarm system have been approved. The Woonsocket Fire Marshal testified that the Applicant has been diligently working towards compliance. Chairman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dias, to grant the Applicant a time variance of 120 days in which to complete the installation of the fire alarm and sprinkler system in this facility.

APPEAL #060207: Mr. Christopher Lahousse, for the property located at 614 North Main Street in Woonsocket. ADSFM Francis Dunton

appeared for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office. The only deficiency cited in this facility was for a door at the top of the stairs at the bar entrance which swings against egress. Marshal Dunton testified that there is no landing at that location and if the door were to swing in the proper direction, it would impede pedestrian travel and may strike someone passing by. He had no objection to a variance. Commissioner Dias made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to grant the Applicant a variance on the door swing, based on structural hardship.

APPEAL #060244: Mr. Doiron and Mr. Rathbun for the St. Ann Arts and Cultural Center at 84 Cumberland Street in Woonsocket. ADSFM Francis Dunton appeared for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office. The building is currently owned and occupied by the non-profit Cultural Center and was formerly a Catholic Church. It has a limited fire alarm system. The Marshal's March 1, 2006 inspection report contained 20 deficiencies. Because the Applicant did not have a plan of action for the correction of the outstanding deficiencies, the subcommittee recommended, on a motion by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by commissioner Dias, that the Applicant, together with the Woonsocket Fire Marshal, prepare a plan of action for the correction of the outstanding deficiencies in this facility, and return with that plan to the full Board on July 14, 2009.

APPEAL #060712: For the property located at 534 Elm Street in Woonsocket. ADSFM Francis Dunton appeared for the Woonsocket

Fire Marshal's office. The Applicant failed to appear. Marshal Dunton testified that, although he has not visited the facility recently, he believes that the facility is compliant. Commissioner Dias made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to close the file.

APPEAL #060959: Mr. Richard Gudz, for the property located at 163 Bernice Avenue in Woonsocket. ADSFM Francis Dunton appeared for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office. Commissioner Jackson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dias, to recommend the following relief to the full Board. First, a variance to be granted to allow the Applicant to maintain the window within the egress system. The Applicant had enclosed a screen porch on the first story, which also caused the window on the first floor of the house to become enclosed within what is now the egress system. The Woonsocket Fire Marshal had no objection to this request. Second recommendation is for a time variance of 120 days in which to correct any outstanding deficiencies in this facility, with the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office having the authority to extend the time for good faith efforts on the part of the Applicant.

APPEAL #060929: Ms. Jennifer Carter, for the property located at 368 East School Street, Woonsocket. ADSFM Francis Dunton appeared for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office. Commissioner Jackson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dias, to grant the Applicant the following time variance. First, a time variance of thirty (30) days in which to repair penetrations in the walls, to apply fire

rated material to the walls in the egress systems and to install portable fire extinguishers in each apartment; second, a time variance of sixty days in which to install a sprinkler head off the domestic supply over the boiler of this facility and to change the cited doors and install self closing devices. Third, a time variance of thirty days in which to submit and have approved plans to the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office for the installation of a fire alarm system, CO detection, emergency lights and exit signs.

APPEAL #060703: Mr. Russell Lebel, for the property located at 582 Blackstone Street in Woonsocket. Commissioner Dias made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to recommend the following relief. First, that the Applicant be granted a variance to sprinkle the means of egress only, utilizing the domestic water supply of this facility. Second, that the Applicant be granted a time variance of thirty days in which to submit plans to the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office for the above sprinklers and also for a sprinkler head to be provided above the furnace in this facility and for the installation of a remote shutoff switch for the same furnace. Third, that the Applicant be granted an additional 120 days from the initial 30 days in which to execute that plan, with the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office having the authority to extend the above time variance for good faith efforts shown by the Applicant.

APPEAL #060615: Mr. Gordon Wan, for the property located at 1081 Social Street in Woonsocket. ADSFM Francis Dunton and ADSFM

Albert Blais appeared for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office. Commissioner Jackson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dias, that the following relief be recommended to the full Board. First, that the Applicant be granted a variance to maintain the current swing of the entrance door to the common means of egress in its current configuration. The Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office has no objection to such relief. Second, that the Applicant be granted a time variance of thirty (30) days in which to submit his plan of action for the correction of all outstanding deficiencies in the facility, with an additional 120 days in which to make the planned corrections, noting that item #12 regarding the rear exit in the mercantile occupancy may not require any additional separation. The Applicant will correct this deficiency, if deemed necessary by the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's office, prior to re-occupancy of the mercantile space, which is currently vacant.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Marsella

Deputy Director